



# FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

June, 1990

## A RETAIL WONDERLAND

**T**he semi-annual retail display show backed by the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DISPLAY INDUSTRIES (NADI) offers a fascinating glimpse of what is available to the retailer. Running the gamut from basic to high tech, the 300 participating distributors present many new and creative display concepts. "Yet, everything has a function," explains Patricia Vitsky-Simone, NADI Communication Director. "It used to be to decorate, just to decorate—now we're thinking practicality as well. The bottom line is to sell."

### THE "NEW DUMMY"

Mannequins take on more shapes than ever before. LIFE STYLES FORMS & DISPLAY CO., has a variety of forms for men, women, and accessories. Fabric covered forms have become quite popular, offering a stark, modern alternative to the "tried and true" dummy. And, specific form material can be ordered to reflect the decor throughout the store. Another recently available option are forms which appear either six or nine months pregnant. "More realistic," explains Lorraine Gentile of the company, "than tying a pillow to the belly."

P. LAFER ENTERPRISES, INC., uses "video rear projection" on the face of a realistic mannequin, so the

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## AROUND-THE-CLOCK GLAMOUR

**G**lamorous, yet practical, perfectly describes Fall/Holiday intimate apparel. From foundations, to sleepwear and leisure apparel, alluring and sophisticated styling combine comfort and easy care in a rainbow of glorious prints, solids, and rich fabrications. Once reserved for RTW, intense shades of grape, coral, wine, teal, cobalt, olive, emerald, and gold are shown in lingerie as part of the current "innerwear as outerwear" trend. In keeping with this new direction is the use of unexpected fabrics such as velvet, chiffon, washable silk, crepe, taffeta, tapestry, and metallics.

In foundations and daywear, the underwire bra in demi-cup or bustier styling is the number one shape. Hi-cut briefs, thongs, and even garter belts are making their mark. VALMONT's bright pink stretch lace demi-bra teams up with a matching thong for a sexy look; while FARIS opts for elegance in a printed charmeuse wide strapped bralette. More variations on this theme can be found at Desiree, Bamboo, and Henson Kickernick.

The newest slip is the body-hugging chemise—best in modern stretch fabrics or charmeuse. GUY LAROCHE

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NATORI



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features actually move during conversation, giving an incredibly life-like appearance. Additionally, this video can be set to a question/answer mode, allowing the customer to ask questions via computer and the "video spokesperson" to answer. Here, one can also find talking owls and gnomes, and a moving tree holding a "save our forests" sign.

Other animated eccentricities can be found at STEREN ROBOTICS and MADISON DISPLAY LTD. At the former, stainless steel "robots" come alive, with movement at head, mouth, shoulders, elbows and waist, and with a built-in micro-processor and speaker! With over thirty costumes available for various characters, the options become limitless. "Mambo," the main character at MADISON DISPLAY, is a three-tiered, 74" display that makes circular movements at each joint. Dressed up and set to music, the lightweight plastic character gives clothing an unexpected jaunty appeal.

### WORLD TRAVEL

The creations at SPHERICAL CONCEPTS, INC. are global. Round spheres and hemispheres are hand-blown and shaped from acrylic, then silk-screened with astrological or geographical symbols creating a see-through globe. Items can be placed inside (watches, scarves, etc.) luring the customer to step up and take a closer look. They will also paint any message or logo to replace the map.

Antiques and memorabilia can be found at ANTIQUES LTD. and UNITED HOUSE WRECKING CORP. At ANTIQUES LTD., old safari hats, weathered trunks, and animal rugs, place the focus on an "out of Africa" appeal. UNITED HOUSE WRECKING concentrates more on the unusual—a ship's wheel, lobster traps, a mounted boar's head, old street signs, tarnished musical instruments, and wooden bird cages.

### IN A FESTIVE MOOD

At DAVID SLOAN CREATIONS, INC., holiday garlands abound in an

array of metallic brights depicting everything from ghosts and pumpkins for Halloween, to red hearts for Valentine's Day. Other interesting trims include plexiglass rods in "see-through" colors and a new "foam/wire" (brightly colored foam surrounding a wire) which when formed by hand takes on any shape. The foam/wire is available in spools of 55 or 110 yards.

AIR DIMENSIONAL DESIGN creates a "party balloon" atmosphere

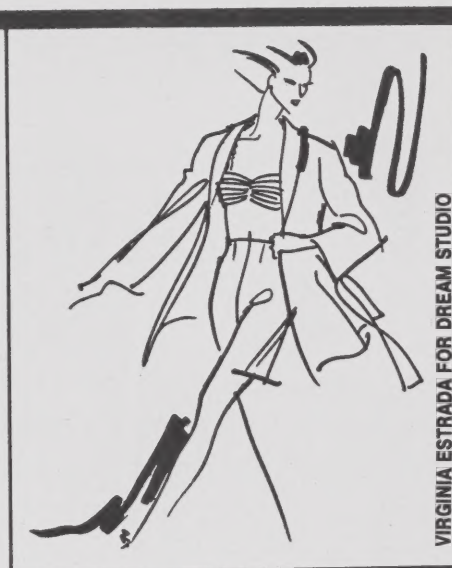
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trims a mesh/Lycra spandex chemise in satin, while GAVIOTA prefers all-over stretch lace. At DIANE PERNET's collection for DREAM STUDIO, a scalloped diagonal hem is the only adornment on a sensual black charmeuse slip dress.

Bodysuits, bike pants, crop tops, and leggings are much in evidence for Fall; and stretch—in lace, Lycra/spandex, or velvet is everywhere. At TOSCA, and at KRIS KEITHAN, cap sleeve stretch lace teddies are winners in brights or black. Long sleeves take the innerwear/outerwear concept a step further. At JONES NEW YORK, a softly draped bodysuit replaces the suit blouse, as does PIRA's black floral lace and stretch velour combo. JAYME plays sheer against opaque in a stretch velvet turtle-neck bodysuit with illusion bodice and sleeves. Trendsetters NATORI and ITHACA also offer the "suit camisole" bodysuit. Crop tops and leggings are shown in styles as diverse as ENHANCE's sleek nylon/Lycra set in French blue, CINEMA ETOILE's sophisticated "Picasso" print, or MEL LIN's charming teddy and paisley bike pants, both in stretch lace. Leggings make leisurewear news most often under a variation of the big top. Some of the best are MONIKA TILLEY's colorful easy swing dress over striped cotton knit leggings, ROBES OF CALIFORNIA's sporty heather grey fleece blouson big top with matching ribbed leggings, and NATORI's glamorous orange iridescent taffeta poet shirt over passementerie embellished black stretch velvet leggings.

with giant, inflated, three-dimensional "airtubes." Available in a limitless choice of lengths or colors, each flame retardant tube can be specifically designed to fit the retailer's space and color scheme. With a motor continually pumping in air, these tubes can be used either in or outdoors.

NADI will hold their 97th show, Dec. 1-4, 1990, at Piers 90 & 92 in New York.



Loungewear isn't confined to any one look next season. Along with more casual styles, designers have given their imagination free rein with sophisticated clothing. Some common denominators—the full top over slim bottom, or the long lean line of a jumpsuit or pajama. ISABEL TOLEDO for DREAM STUDIO shows a hooded blouson pajama in a wonderful shade of grape silk charmeuse. DIANE PERNET's black charmeuse mini-slip glides over chiffon pajamas. At PGB DESIGNS, a black voile big shirt by GRETCHEN FENSTON has a velvet collar and buttons. Slim velvet crop pants complete the Eastern inspired look. For the ultimate in entertaining, nothing tops VICTOR COSTA LIFE-STYLES' all over sequinned jacket and pants in black or jewel tones. The kimono wrap and "smoking" jacket are two of the seasons strongest silhouettes. ROMAN HOLIDAY shows a magnificent black velvet "smoking" with antique patchwork brocade collar and cuffs over slim

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pull-on pants. At DREAM STUDIO, VIRGINIA ESTRADA wraps her shawl collar smoking jacket in wine silk charmeuse, and slips it over a Shirred bra and shorts. Variations on the wrap turn up at PERRY ELLIS, CARIN ANN, AND NATORI.

Jumpsuits are omnipresent. ROBES OF CALIFORNIA offers two winners in knit velour. For elegant evenings, black lace at the deep "V" neckline and long sleeves gives a jumper effect. A more casual mood is evoked in the strapless jumpsuit

with matching quilted bolero. Quilting is as important in Fall lounge-wear as it is in Fall RTW.

Sleepwear leans toward sophistication in color and fabric, as well as styling. Metallics, liquid satin, voile, sheers, laces, cotton, and silk, in brights and offbeat shades add up to an elegant Fall/Holiday statement. Look for a variety of cropped or full length pajamas, sleepshirts, nightgowns, and chemises. The cocoon is a key piece—replacing the bedjacket over long or short gowns. A few of the outstanding styles are BOB

MACKIE's velvet dotted lame and chiffon chemise and coat for BLANCHE, ROMANTIC NIGHT's calais lace trimmed soft pajama in pistachio liquid satin, MS. B by BARBIZON's chemise and fanny wrap in an abstract printed metallic charmeuse, JONQUIL's pleated black liquid satin gown and robe in silver blue with ivory re-embroidered lace trim, and an utterly simple Empire gown in white shadow striped cotton tied under the bust in flat gold cording by PERRY ELLIS.

## ACCENT ON ACCESSORIES

Entering the '90s, accessory designers take a fond glance into the past and eastward. Through all the accessory categories, the rich heritage of the Byzantine era is evident—in the luscious gold braiding and embroidery upon hats, the opulent jewelry in matte or granulated gold, and the ornate embellishment on bags and belts. Sumptuous velvet makes a regal statement in shawls, turbans, hoods, toques, belts, and even handbags. These rich looks are in deep exquisite jewel tones; spice and harvest hues make a bold alternative statement in more tailored styles; while a natural palette in leather goods remains a staple.

### TRENDS

**Jewelry:** Bronze as well as matte and burnished gold are strongly featured metals, often set with richly colored stones. Pendants are omnipresent, veering from the simple Austrian crystal, to the intricate Byzantine style heavily encrusted with jewels. These are worn on simple leather thongs or heavy metal chains.

Options for earrings are either single or multiple drop chandeliers, in shoulder grazing or modified lengths.

Rings resurface, worn stacked, in silver or textured gold. Bold cuffs highlight the wrist, while leaf motifs reinforce the Autumnal season.

**Hats:** The brimless hat is the mainstay of most collections, ranging from high crowned toques to cloches.

However, the exaggerated crown projects a strong vintage and directional feel, while packable/crushable styles, such as berets and turbans, will be the practical choice for many.

Details, such as embroidery or passementerie, make an ornate statement for both day and evening, with both real and faux fur as the trim of choice. For novelty, the jaunty baseball cap adds a touch of fun. Fabrics include wool and fur felt, suede, velvet and crushed velvet, knits, and chenille. The palette offers spice tones, harvests, and earthy hues.

**Bags:** Autumn and spice tones, as well as naturals, are featured on soft slouchy designs, such as drawstrings, hobos, backpacks, and totes—generally larger in size. Constructed silhouettes offer a more sophisticated look. Suede is in the spotlight, from solid or quilted to printed. Grommets, studs, and ornate hardware are highlighting details.

**Belts:** In natural, spice, and Autumn hues, belt bags resurface—while belts get wider. Fabrics range from hard to soft leather and suede. On a contoured belt, an ornamented buckle is key. This category is also rich in detailing, from gold braid to embroidery or jewels.

**Shawls:** Iridescent fabrics for a shimmering metallic effect, as well as Lurex, velvet and crushed velvet, chenille, and a myriad of silks.

Details include tassels, pompoms, passementerie, and sequins. Rich golds, jewel tones, and muted neutrals are the colorations in solids or antique paisley prints.

### IN THE MARKET

From medieval to Byzantine, the romantic influence of ancient cultures is reflected in the jewelry of TEMPLE ST.

CLAIR CARR. Rings, earrings, bangles, and pendants are 18K or 22K gold, and embellished with cabachons (precious emeralds and sapphires, semi-precious amethysts, tourmalines, citrines, and garnets) with ancient coins incorporated. Included in the collection are ultra-fine gold beads, Egyptian scarab rings, and a crystal ball pendant within a gold setting. LINDA FADDIS is inspired by similar cultures and each piece of jewelry within her collection is created by hand to simulate ancient styles. Leather is the base of her pieces, gilded to appear as if hammered gold, and set with stones, coins, and other materials. Her collection offers an antique gold pendant on a gold thong, a gilded leather bangle with

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glass pearls and amethysts, and a group of multiple drop earrings in all lengths. KERRY MACBRIDE's jewelry is mystical in feeling, and gives the romance of the past a contemporary interpretation. He has designed accessories to accent the collections of Isaac Mizrahi, Carmelo Pomodoro, and Gordon Henderson. Smoky quartz, onyx, lapis, malachite, and a variety of other stones appear on pendants, earrings, and bracelets, juxtaposed with sterling silver or gold plate. The latter two appear on a talisman-like pin from which a frosted glass drop is suspended. LISA JENKS also fuses the modern with the primitive in a collection where 18K gold, sterling silver, and gold vermeil amorphous shapes veer from Celtic to industrial in inspiration. New for JENKS is a group of earrings, rings, and bracelets in 23K gold vermeil on sterling silver, polished to emulate a patina, on which architectural and decorative details appear. MISH JEWELRY also takes its cue from architecture and the past. Sterling, vermeil, and brass pieces are hand cast, then the sterling and vermeil pieces are gilded with 19K gold. Many items include antique glass, hand-cut crystals and hand enameling. The stately "Homewood" in Carrollton is the inspiration for one group which incorporates moldings into bracelets, and chandelier mounts and chairbacks into earrings. From the period of LOUIS XIV, The Sun King, a sunray pendant in gold vermeil is suspended from a geometrical gold chain, while antique scarabs pay homage to Egypt. ROKOFF, (in Autumn and spice hues), utilizes suede, cabachons, and hammered gold in his collection. Earrings offer the option of drama, dusting the shoulder, or chic and career oriented, with circles of suede and cabachons.

FRED HASSONS's hats for Fall/Holiday feature classic with a twist, directional silhouettes, and whimsical detail and trim. In spice tones and basics, bi-color toppers make news, as do the ethnic and embroidered ribbon accents. Silhouettes run the gamut from the brimless mini-

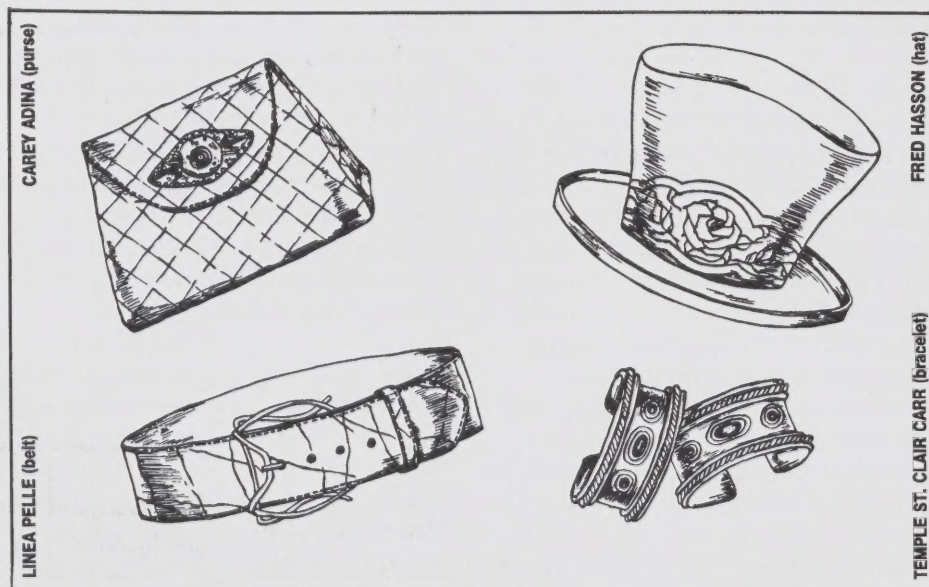
mushroom, to the "Dr. Love" bi-color with enormous crown and rich gold and jewel tone tapestry band. "Grapes of Wrath" is witty, again bi-colored, garnished with silk grapes and vine leaves! Fabrics include felt, sewn straw, and floral tapestry. PATRICIA UNDERWOOD features the cloche in her PATRICIA UNDERWOOD TOO velour group, which also includes a deep crown topper and a fedora in burgundy, green, and neutrals. A chenille group, in harvest tones and brights, features a twisted turban and knotted headbands; while a tapestry toque sets a directional mood. In a cashmere blend group, headbands reappear as does the beret, and trim takes the form of fox fur on a cuffed hat, while mink edges a lace cowl. A quilted suede novelty group includes a "Sherlock Holmes" style and a baseball cap, in black, olive, and cognac. The latter silhouette reappears in a group from MAGGIE VALL in felt, some of which feature contrast edging. She also includes a variety of cloches and toques accented with ribbons and bows. Crushed velvet makes an appearance at LINDA FADDIS in the form of twisted, turban-like balaclavas (a knitted hoodlike cap covering the head, neck, and part of the shoulders), inspired by the Ottoman Empire, in bronze or black. These are also in floral jewel tone printed velvet on black. KOKIN has a brimmed hat with deep bowl in felt, overlaid with a mesh of chenille; while the "Midas

Nehru" is a toque in spice and harvest colored felt, trimmed with gold braid.

LINEA PELLE's printed velvet group of bags are featured in baroque colors, accented with gold beads. Suede is quilted for additional texture and includes drawstring pouches and a zip-top bag with gold clasp and beads. Suede belts are embellished with gold or silver braid in tan, ecru, and mustard. All belts over 1½" are contoured, with ornate or covered buckles. Another group in Italian pressed crocodile (in black or brown) features such vintage structures as a large Gladstone bag, which coordinates with a contoured belt with brass scroll buckle. CAREY ADINA's quilted suede group is in solids or a medallion print, in earth tones influenced by the Italian countryside. This is a structured group which includes a pyramid shape flap top with ornate gold clasp, totes, and geometrics.

LINDA FADDIS shows a super-soft 5" belt in burgundy suede with a bold gold buckle studded with jewels and pearls. JILL STUART believes in the belt bag which she shows in velvet, or velvet and grey flannel. The latter, in pouch form and embellished with pearls, makes an easy transition from day into evening. The black velvet backpack, solid embroidered or covered with sequins, is a great novelty item.

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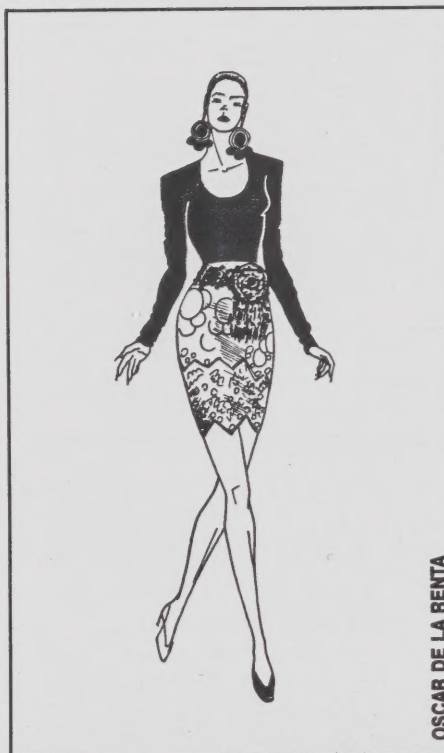


## ON THE RUNWAY

For years, designers have been intent on reestablishing the hat as a "mandatory" accessory. This season they may finally succeed! Some of the best are OSCAR DE LA RENTA's shaped berets and brushed felt cloches. Typical of his thinking, a tweed olive/ochre boucle jacket worn over a gold hammered satin blouse and matte gold leather skirt, topped off with a small brimmed olive trilby. CAROLYNE ROEHM frames the face with giant fox brimmed velvets, and Persian lamb cossack hats. BOB MACKIE dyes his "Davy Crockett" foxes in grape, deep red or purple to match fringe trimmed suede jackets. And in a collection heavy on Russian and American themes, NORMA KAMALI has fun with upturned fur brims and earflaps on black leather hats, and "Wyatt Earp" stetsons.

Gloves and scarves are essential accessories this season. KOOS VAN DEN AKKER shows whimsical polka dotted or copper jersey, as well as long bright satin gloves. Satin shows up again, in gold at CAROLINA HERRERA's and in black at GAIL SIMMS. RANDOLPH DUKE pairs colorful knit gloves with a group of plaid separates. Look for BOB MACKIE to do the ultimate—gold beaded and tasseled satin or suede gauntlets. Day or night, scarves and stoles are elements of drama. DONNA KARAN flings a long sequinned scarf over an alpaca fleece blazer; while REBECCA MOSES adds Lurex to a fringed windowpane scarf shown with a tattersall ensemble. RONALDUS SHAMASK takes a different tack for day with an enveloping olive wool velour hooded and fringed blanket scarf. BILL BLASS's cashmere mufflers, casually wrapped around the neck, replace necklaces by day, while grand evenings call for bright satin stoles with ball gowns. GAIL SIMMS edges her sheer black chiffon scarves with black bead fringe or

feathers, and drapes them over a simple crepe cocktail dress or jeweled bodysuit. With a flourish, ELEANOR P. BRENNER dramatically fringes a beaded black wool wrap, and pairs it with a black embroidered sheath.



At night, the focus is on the ears. Designers, for the most part, confine their jewelry fantasies to this part of the anatomy, perhaps inspired by the current European passion for chandelier earrings. OSCAR DE LA RENTA's imagination runs riot with matte gold relief embossed earrings—oval or domed designs swirled with iridescent hearts and jet/fringe combinations worthy of a sultan's harem. Irregularly shaped crystals wrapped in thin silver wire form dangling earrings by THEA ANEMA. Chandelier earrings in jet combined with rhinestones, and chunky bright glass oval drops, turn up at CAROLINA HERRERA; while CAROLYNE ROEHM shows long rhinestone drops that swing to the shoulders in Indian inspired designs.

Finally, it is left to GEOFFREY BEENE to present the most unusual accessory of the season—"modern" soft fabric jewelry. A single quilted wedge of gold lame, crisscrossed with string ties, is inserted at the neckline of a suit—outstanding!

## FUR & FAUX GO CASUAL

This season, fur styles are casual and versatility is the key! The common link in many of the lines is the use of fur as though it were fabric, as well as mixing fabric with fur. Colors range from sweet pastels to vibrant brights. Natural tones are also present, most often in mink. Short-haired skins still prevail, such as sheared mink, beaver, and broadtail; while shearlings remain extremely popular. As for faux, many of the designers sprinkle faux through their collections, usually focusing on animal prints.

BOB MACKIE for HBA presents an incredibly casual collection. Aztec printed shearlings and beaded fringe furs are reminiscent of his RTW line. Lunaraine mink coats have topaz studded sleeves in a "quilted" pattern, and red satin jackets have ranch mink linings. For a bit of glitter, a sequin shell slips over a "wild" mink

stroller. At MOHL, ARNOLD SCAASI's most talked about pieces were his relaxed looking black and white plaid beaver coats in A-line, military, duffle, and draped-collar styles.

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Many of the designers reinterpret their RTW lines in fur. CARMELO POMODORO for REVILLON presents his drawstring coat in "wild" mink and his chic "survival vest" lined with muskrat. His wide shearling selection is in brick, pumpkin, and chocolate colors. At BIRGER CHRISTENSEN, the PERRY ELLIS COLLECTION translates the "Manhattan Skyline" jackets into black and white sheared mink or shearling. "Quilted" looks appear in mink and chinchilla jackets and coats; while the shearlings are appealing in pale blue and pink.

Fabric with fur is most popular when used in reversible styles. A plum and green quilted challis coat

is reversible to plum dyed sheared mink; while an anorak reverses from bronze taffeta to claret dyed sheared mink. Both by OSCAR DE LA RENTA for WAGNER FURS.

Leopard accents a number of the faux fur collections. ANNA SUI uses leopard for her cropped bolero; while DANNY NOBLE's black anorak is lined with leopard, both at ANNETTE B. Short haired furs are popular here as well. COMME DU VRAI makes a lightweight "Persian lamb" into a black boyfriend's jacket, at LULU BRAVO. SALLY BEERS does a sheared beaver look in two-toned monochromatic colors; and at ADRIENNE LANDAU, faux chinchilla is on the upswing.



## FABRICS: SPRING/SUMMER '91

**L**inen is the hands down favorite for Spring/Summer '91. Knitted or woven, flat or textured, soft or crisp—the variety is endless. Linen and linen type fabrics are available in 100% varieties, or blended with silk, cotton, rayon, or polyester. Weights vary from sheer and handkerchief varieties, to heavy rustic types, open weaves, silky shan-tungs, and iridescent weaves. Printed, cross-dyed, classically patterned, jacquard, or embellished, linen can take on a refined, feminine, or rustic country appearance. Many of the linens being shown have been given a soft hand, some have been indigo dyed and washed; while others are heavily embroidered, appliqued, sequined, or woven into multi-colored jacquard patterns.

Stretch continues to sell well, as technology provides newness. Oiled, pearlized, salt washed finishes; breathable, light, soft coated fabrics; washed, sanded, peach skin treat-

ments; and microfibers are continuing newsmakers. Microfibers are fine denier nylon or polyester. They appear alone or blended with other natural or manmade fibers, and the hand is always soft (sometimes a peach finish is added). Prints on microfiber content fabrics are on the upswing for both dress and coating weight fabrics.

Canvas and denim are two fabrics enjoying a strong comeback. Denim is turning up most often stonewashed to give it a soft hand. Canvas is sanded to give it a peach skin touch. It is washed, printed, embroidered, and available in a variety of weights.

Flat textures of note include gabardines of all weights, poplins, muslin, challis, chambrays, and sateens. The most frequently seen textures are sandy crepes, ribby failles, piques, and ottomans, panamas, waffled, pleated, seersuckered, and plissed surfaces. Sheer and transparent fab-

rics are fragile, feminine, and usually soft and fluid. Some of the leaders are voiles, georgettes, gauzes, chiffons, and dotted swiss.

Shimmer and luster also appear, from chintz and calendered surfaces, to subtle touches of sequins, paillettes, or metallic yarns. Open work is another popular look. This can be knitted or woven. The range is enormous—from fragile lingerie type laces to guipure, heavy crocheted looks, and thick fishnetting.

Pattern-wise jacquards lead the way. Multi-colored and tapestry in appearance, or small, neat and monotoned, they are in all weights of fabric. Classic patterns include pajama, satin and club stripes, glen or handkerchief checks. More rustic in feeling are ticking and dish towel stripes, and tablecloth checks.

Prints continue to sell well, and print themes run the gamut. Marine life is seen with colorful happy fish, sea-shells, seaweed, fossils, and water splash abstracts. Botanical looks are reminiscent of English country gardens, herbariums, seed catalogs, tropic foliage, or upholstery florals. They are usually completely covered, some are abstract, misted or blurred. Notable is one of the newest base fabrics for prints—a soft peach skin finished poplin of 100% rayon.

Zoology is strongly depicted with jungle denizens, birds, and insects. Artistic representation includes Picasso, Chagall, Matisse, and Andy Warhol. Abstract prints take on an Art Deco mood, or are ethnic in origin. Batik grounds, Ikat techniques, tattoo patterns, fractured ceramics, mosaics, or African primitives are some of the featured themes. Figuratives include Polynesian villages, Roman ruins, or witty cartoons.



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